

In-season Assessment Information: 8/13/2016

USFWS

This document is intended to provide managers and stakeholders with the most current information on the status of the 2016 Kuskokwim River salmon runs. The data to produce this document were provided by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. **All data for 2016 are preliminary and no analyses have been peer-reviewed, so please make interpretations with caution.** If you have any questions regarding estimates or numbers, please contact Ben Staton at bas0041@auburn.edu.

Chinook

Table 1. Bethel Test Fishery cumulative Chinook catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) on 8/13 for the past five years. These are essentially end of season CPUE numbers for Chinook.

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
End of Season	681	625	650	261	419

The Aniak Test Fishery ended operations on 7/15 with an end of season cumulative Chinook CPUE of 2,729. The 2015 end of season cumulative CPUE was 2,916.

Figure 1. Daily and cumulative Bethel Test Fishery Chinook CPUE as of 8/13. **The 2016 Chinook salmon run had an average run timing, although much more protracted than average.**

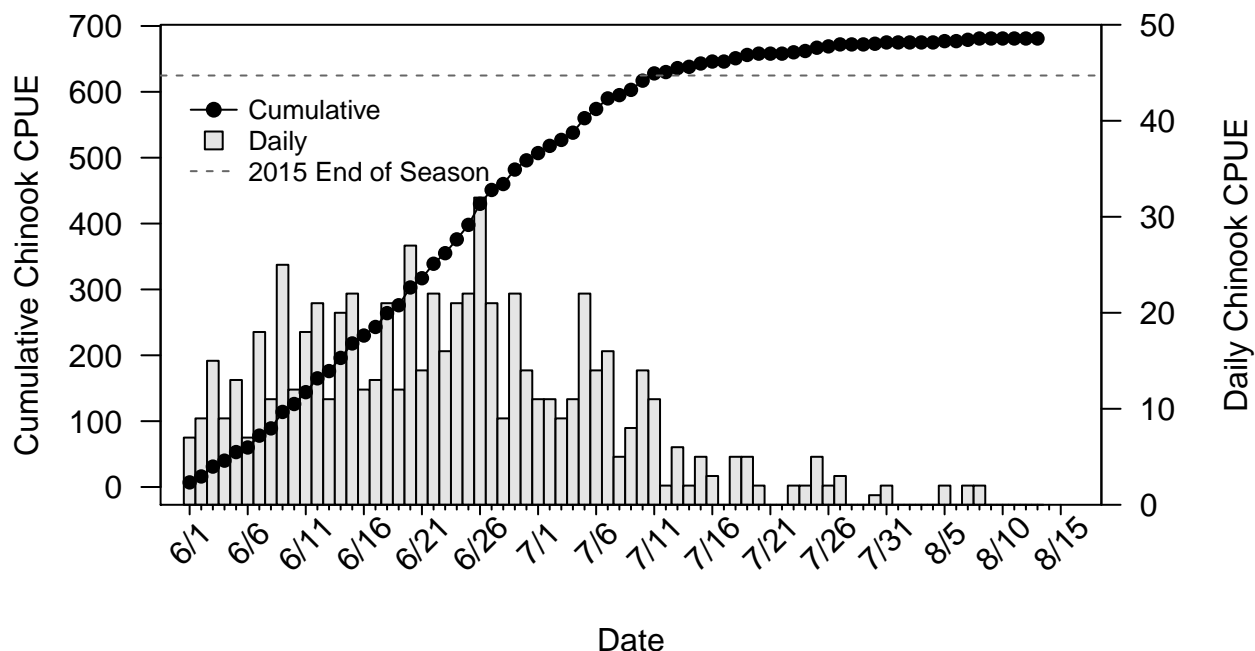


Table 2. Predicted run size past Bethel based on end of season CPUE and run timing.

Timing	End of Season BTF	Predicted	Lower 95%	Upper 95%
Median	681	158,000	93,000	223,000

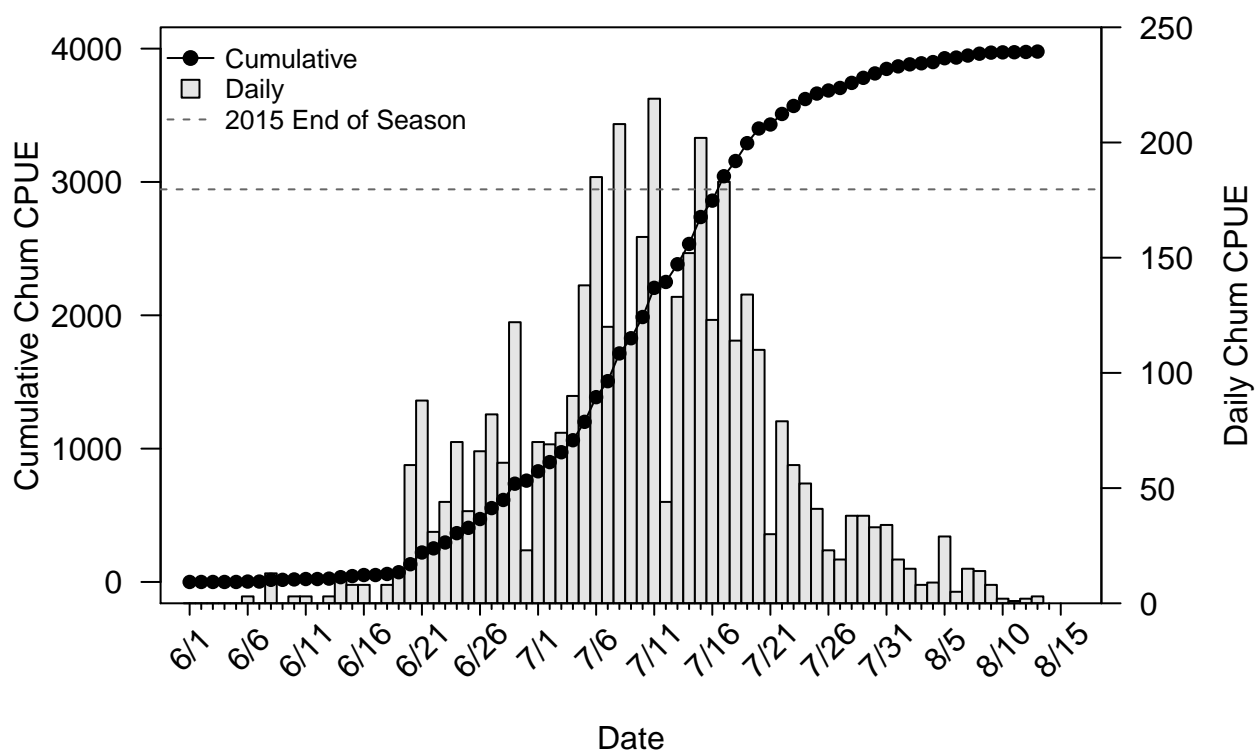
Chum

Table 3. Bethel Test Fishery cumulative chum catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) for the past five years. Small numbers of chum salmon are still coming in, so the 2016 number is essentially end of season CPUE, but is subject to change.

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
End of Season	3,978	2,945	6,343	5,708	6,893

The Aniak Test Fishery ended operations on 7/15 with an end of season cumulative chum CPUE of 5,304. The 2015 end of season cumulative CPUE was 5,669.

Figure 2. Daily and cumulative Bethel Test Fishery chum CPUE as of 8/13. **The 2016 chum salmon run was later than an average chum run.**



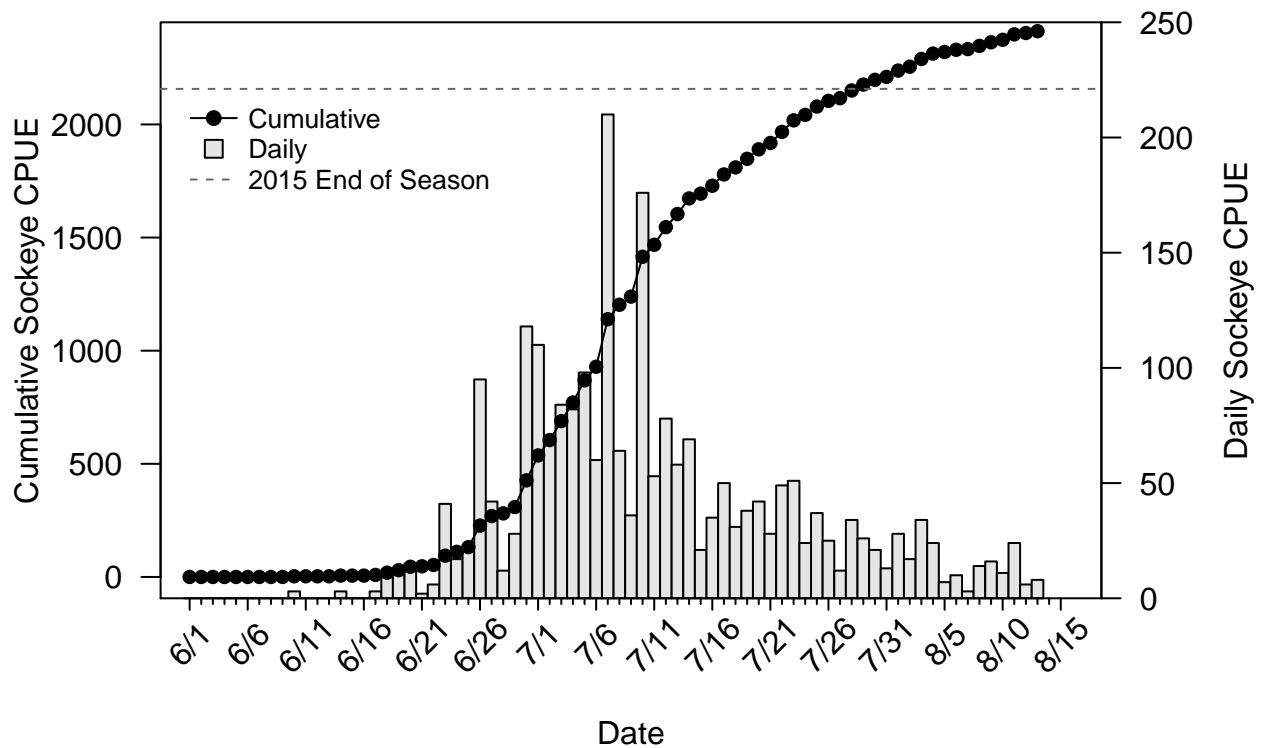
Sockeye

Table 4. Bethel Test Fishery cumulative sockeye catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) for the past five years. Small numbers of sockeye salmon are still coming in, so the 2016 number is essentially end of season CPUE, but is subject to change.

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
End of Season	2,412	2,157	1,367	1,146	1,171

The Aniak Test Fishery ended operations on 7/15 with an end of season cumulative sockeye CPUE of 405. The 2015 end of season cumulative CPUE was 1,245.

Figure 3. Daily and cumulative Bethel Test Fishery sockeye CPUE as of 8/13. **The 2016 sockeye salmon run appears to be one of the latest observed sockeye runs to date.**



Coho

Table 5. Bethel Test Fishery cumulative coho catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) for the past five days and five years.

Date	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
8/9	1,279	1,245	2,338	1,423	1,051
8/10	1,356	1,322	2,723	1,672	1,153
8/11	1,471	1,396	2,972	1,916	1,181
8/12	1,579	1,523	3,115	2,008	1,292
8/13	1,683	1,666	3,357	2,063	1,403
End of Season	—	2,688	4,697	2,865	2,376

Table 6. Cumulative percent of the coho run through 8/24 as of 8/13 given various run timing scenarios, as detected at the Bethel Test Fishery. Bethel Test Fishery indexes coho salmon through 8/24, providing an incomplete (though annually comparable), estimate of the true run timing.

Coho Timing	Median Run Day	Cumulative Percent
Earliest	7/28	99%
Earliest 10%	8/4	92%
Earliest 25%	8/6	84%
Median	8/8	76%
Latest 25%	8/10	69%
Latest 10%	8/11	62%
Latest	8/12	53%

Figure 4. Daily and cumulative Bethel Test Fishery coho CPUE as of 8/13.

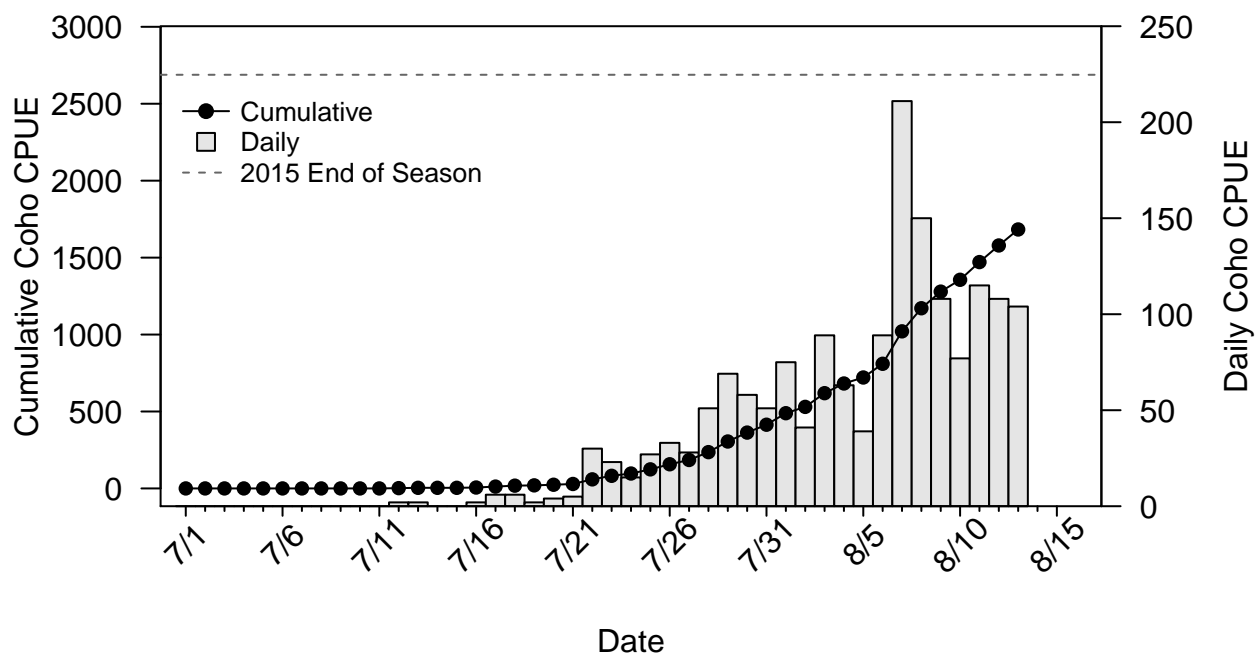


Figure 5. Predicted cumulative end of season Bethel Test Fishery coho CPUE, assuming various run timings for 2016.

